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Almost the entire white population have voluntarily accepted vaccination, and it is hoped that as soon as compulsory vaccination reaches the entire population the disease will cease. About 160 per day are being vaccinated. The type is mild, but 1 death resulting so far.

Respectfully,

HUGH BURFORD,

*Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

*Smallpox in Oswego, Kans.*

OSWEGO, KANS., *February 8, 1900.*

SIR: On November 5, 1899, a case of smallpox was brought to this city from Springfield, Mo. A meeting of the local board of health was called and the case quarantined. There were 8 persons exposed in this house. All were at once vaccinated. The first 4 took the disease in about twelve days and 1 was quite sick. Eyes are injured. The other 4 had the disease so lightly that it would not have been noticed under other circumstances. Just about the time the thirty-five days prescribed by the State was up, another colored man came here from Joplin, Mo., with a marked case of smallpox. An effort was made to keep his father's family free of the disease, but 3 of them had varioloid, and the parents had the prodromata, but no eruption.

On or about January 7 a white woman took it, and since then her 3 children have had it; the nursling was very ill with it. This makes 17 cases we have had since November 5. We quarantined 2 white families with what proved to be chicken pox. Our board of health would take no risks in calling the disease "Cuban itch," and by so doing we confined it to three families.

Respectfully,

GEO. S. LIGGETT,

*Mayor and President of City Board of Health.*

*Report on inspection of smallpox at Winston, High Point, and Greensboro, N. C.*

WILMINGTON, N. C., *February 4, 1900.*

SIR: In obedience to your telegraphic instructions of January 29, 1900, to proceed to Winston, N. C., as expert diagnostician for smallpox, I have the honor to state that I left the following morning for Winston. I stopped between trains at Greensboro, visited the smallpox hospital, made photographs of several cases of smallpox, and had an interview with the mayor. I arrived at Winston the same evening, and was met at the depot by Dr. C. L. Summers, city health officer, who extended to me every courtesy. The following statement of the situation was given me:

Two weeks previous to my arrival a case of smallpox made its appearance in a white man, a resident of the city; the source of infection probably being Greensboro. The case and all known suspects were removed from the city limits, and quarantined. All necessary precautions were taken, and a corps of inspectors and vaccinators was put to work in the city. The usual doubts as to the nature of the disease, and the necessity for vaccination prevailed among the laity and some physicians, and a good deal of opposition to the enforcement of the vaccination ordinance was manifested. The authorities having heard of the results of my recent visit to the neighboring city of Greensboro, asked

that I might be sent to settle the diagnosis, and discuss the situation with the people.

On the morning after my arrival, accompanied by the city physician and several other physicians, I visited the smallpox hospital and suspect camp. I found 1 patient to be in the eleventh day of the eruption of smallpox. The case was discrete, though the patient had quite a severe attack. I made several photographs of the case. In the afternoon I attended a mass meeting of some 700 or 800 citizens, and discussed the situation with them.

These talks with the citizens have become quite a feature of my recent smallpox work. There is usually a great deal of interest manifested in the situation, and as my coming is usually heralded in the newspapers, a good many people are anxious or curious to hear my report, and what I have to advise.

It is gratifying to be able to report that the authorities state that these talks have been of great assistance to them in the work of suppressing the disease.

Your telegraphic instructions to proceed to High Point, N. C., upon completion of my duties at Winston, were received on the afternoon of January 30. I left at 5 p. m., and arrived at High Point the same evening. Here I had an interview with the mayor, and several local physicians, who gave me the following account of the situation:

For several months past an eruptive disease, diagnosed as chicken pox, had been prevailing. As the cases had been very mild, and no deaths had occurred, nothing had been done for its suppression. Within the past two weeks, however, the cases had become more numerous, and of a severer type. Isolation of the cases in their own homes had been ordered, and vaccination urged. Here, as elsewhere, there were many people who refused to believe that the cases were smallpox, or that there was any necessity for vaccination.

Quite a number of the employees of the various furniture factories (the chief industry of the place) had closed their houses, and gone into the country to avoid being vaccinated. Under these circumstances the local authorities desired to have an authoritative diagnosis of the disease, and advice, before taking further steps.

On the morning after my arrival, accompanied by the mayor and some of the local physicians, I visited a number of the cases, and saw 6 or 8 cases of smallpox in varying stages of eruption. All the patients with smallpox that I saw were negroes, and the disease was typical. One confluent case was in the fourth day of the eruption. I made several photographs of the best marked cases. I was informed that there were 15 cases in all in the city, but it was not considered necessary for me to see each of them. I was shown 4 or 5 white patients who were said to have had recently an eruptive disease. When I saw them the eruption had disappeared, and from the history given me I was unable to make a diagnosis. I do not think that these patients had smallpox. After visiting the cases I addressed a mass meeting of the citizens, discussed the situation with them, and gave the usual advice. I left High Point at noon February 1. As I passed through Greensboro I saw the mayor of that city who informed me that the authorities had the situation well in hand. He said that there were 29 cases in the hospital; that about 90 per cent of the population had been successfully vaccinated, and he thought the trouble about over. He was anxious that I stop and look over the situation, but this I was unable to do.

Respectfully,

C. P. WERTENBAKER,

*Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*